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*In the Name of Allah,  
Most Gracious, Most Merciful*

All praise is due to Allah ﷻ. We praise Him, seek His Aid and ask for His Forgiveness. We seek Refuge with Allah from the evil of ourselves and from the evil of our actions. Whomsoever Allah guides none can misguide, and whomsoever Allah misguides none can guide. Glory be to Allah, the One, the Self-Sufficient Master, and there is no deity but Allah. I testify that none has the right to be worshipped except Allah ﷻ, having no partners, and I testify that Muhammad ﷺ is His Servant and Messenger. He ﷺ conveyed the Mission, advised his Ummah, relieved it of its affliction, and left us on the Straight Path.

The best speech is that of the Qur'an, the best guidance is that of Muhammad ﷺ, a wicked matter is that of heretic innovations, each innovation is a *Bid'a*, each *Bid'a* is a misguidance, and any misguidance is in Hellfire.

Allah ﷻ says,



answered. We shall also add a few stories of pious people whose supplications were answered.

I pray to Allah ﷻ that Muslims will benefit from this book, and Peace and Blessing upon our beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, the teacher of humanity. Praise be upon Allah ﷻ, the Lord of the Worlds.

Majdi Muhammad Ash-Shahawi  
Damiatta, Egypt.

## *Du'a... Etiquettes and Causes* The Times and places of Response

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- 1- *Du'a* as a Weapon of a Believer
- 2- *Du'a* and Affliction
- 3- The Answering of one's *Du'a*
- 4- The Etiquettes of making a *Du'a*
- 5- The Places and Times when a *Du'a* is Answered
- 6- How a *Du'a* is Answered



### **Du'a as a Weapon of a Believer**

When afflictions befall one, hardships continue to come and a situation intensifies, a believer has no option but to resort to Allah ﷻ, seeking His Help and Support which He has Promised to the sincere believers, as stated in the Qur'an,

وَقَالَ رَبُّكُمْ ادْعُونِي أَسْتَجِبْ لَكُمْ ﴿٦٠﴾

«And your Lord has said: "Invoke Me, I will answer your invocation."»<sup>4</sup>

And

وَإِذَا سَأَلَكَ عِبَادِي عَنِّي فَإِنِّي قَرِيبٌ ۖ أُجِيبُ دَعْوَةَ الدَّاعِ إِذَا دَعَانِ ۖ فَلْيَسْتَجِيبُوا لِي وَلْيُؤْمِنُوا بِي لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْشُدُونَ ﴿١٨٦﴾

«When My servants ask you (O Muhammad) concerning Me, then surely I am near (them by my Knowledge). I

answer the invocations of the suppliant when he calls on Me. So let them obey Me and believe in Me, so that they may be led aright»<sup>5</sup>

In the above verses Allah ﷻ has promised to answer the prayers of the believers Himself, without any mediator or intercessor. The verses also illustrate a kind of love, affection, closeness, and certainty from Allah ﷻ. Abu Hurairah ؓ reported that the Prophet ﷺ said: "When it is the last third of the night, our Lord ﷻ descends every night to the heaven of the world and says, 'Is there anyone who invokes Me (demand anything from Me), that I may respond to his invocation; is there anyone who asks Me for something that I may give (it to) him; is there anyone who asks My forgiveness that I may forgive him?'"<sup>6</sup>

Under the Protection of Allah ﷻ, His Closeness, Love and Affection, He ﷻ turns the attention of the believers towards the issue of answering their prayers, which is related to the complete obedience to and belief in Him, as He ﷻ says, «so let them obey Me and believe in Me, so that they may be led aright». This verse implies complete obedience to His Orders and Commands, submission to His Will and acceptance of the Religion which He ﷻ has chosen for His servants:

<sup>4</sup> Surat Ghafir: Verse 60.

<sup>5</sup> Surat al-Baqarah: Verse 186.

<sup>6</sup> Sahih al-Bukhari: 1145 and Sahih Muslim: 758.



## Answering one's Du'a

Muslims are ordered to supplicate Allah ﷻ so that He ﷻ would answer their *Du'a*, as He ﷻ says, **﴿and your Lord has said: "Invoke Me, I will answer your invocation">﴾**. An-Nu'man Ibn Bashir ؓ reported that the Prophet ﷺ said: "Supplication (*Du'a*) is itself the worship. (He ﷻ then recited the following verse: **﴿and your Lord has said: "Invoke Me, I will answer your invocation">﴾**." <sup>13</sup>

In another *Marfu'* Hadith,<sup>14</sup> narrated by at-Tabarani, "Whoever is inspired with *Du'a*, his/her supplication will be answered, because Allah ﷻ says, **﴿Invoke Me, I will answer your invocation">﴾**." <sup>15</sup> The Prophet ﷺ also said: "Allah would not open the gate of *Du'a* for a servant and close the gate of answering." <sup>16</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Imam Ahmed: (4/267, 271, 276), Abu Dawud: 1479, at-Tirmidhi: (2969, 3247, 3372), an-Nasa'i: 11464, Ibn Majah: 3828, Ibn Hibban: 890, and al-Hakim: 1/491.

<sup>14</sup> *Marfu'*: "elevated", a narration from the Prophet ﷺ mentioned by a companion, e.g. "The Messenger of Allah said..."

<sup>15</sup> At-Tabarani's *As-Saghir*: 1022, on the authority of Ibn Mas'ud.

<sup>16</sup> *Jami' al-Ulum wal-Hikan*, p. 392.

Muslims are commanded to supplicate Allah ﷻ more and more, because there is nothing more precious to Allah ﷻ than *Du'a*. If you do not supplicate Allah, He ﷻ would be angry with you. It is reported in a Hadith Sahih that the Prophet ﷺ said: "Your Lord is munificent and generous, and is ashamed to turn away empty the hands of His servant when he raises them to Him." <sup>17</sup>

Therefore, whoever knocks Allah's Door with *Du'a*, He ﷻ would not let him/her down, but rather He would answer your prayers; so Muslims must devote themselves to supplication and anticipate Allah's answer, and never despair of the Mercy of Allah ﷻ, because they supplicate the Most Generous Lord.

Sufyan Ibn Uyaynah, may Allah have mercy upon him, said: "Do not be prevented, by your negligence, from making *Du'a*, because Allah ﷻ has answered the supplication of His worst creature, Iblis, when he (Iblis) said:

قَالَ رَبِّ فَأَنْظِرْنِي إِلَى يَوْمٍ يُبْعَثُونَ ﴿١٠٠﴾

<sup>17</sup> Al-Hakim: 1/498, Abu Dawud: 1787 and Abu Ya'la': 4108.



favour and beneficence, the Originator of the Heavens and the earth, O Lord of Majesty and Splendour, O Living One, O Eternal One.' The Prophet ﷺ then said: 'He has supplicated Allah using His Greatest Name, when supplicated by this Name, He answers, and when asked by this Name, He gives.'" <sup>85</sup>

- "O Living One, O Eternal One, with Your Forgiveness I seek help." <sup>86</sup>

- "O Lord of Majesty and Splendour." <sup>87</sup>

- "*La Ilaha Illa Anta* (none has the right to be worshipped but You O Allah), Glorified and Exalted be You, truly I have been of the wrong-doers." <sup>88</sup>

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<sup>85</sup> Sunan Abu Dawud: 3495, at-Tirmidhi: 3544, Ibn Majah: 3858 and Ibn Hibban: 893.

<sup>86</sup> At-Tirmidhi: 3524.

<sup>87</sup> *Musnad* Imam Ahmed: 4/177, at-Tirmidhi: 3525 and al-Hakim's *Mustadrak*: 1/499.

<sup>88</sup> The supplication used by Yunus عليه السلام, in Surat al-Anbiyaa: Verse 87, Sunan at-Tirmidhi: 3505 and al-Hakim's *Mustadrak*: 1/505-506.

How is it that We may Supplicate Allah, Yet Allah ﷻ still does not answer our Supplications?

---

**Because of the following:**

**1- Not Enjoining Good nor Forbidding Evil**

**2- Having unlawful Food, Unlawful Drink, and Unlawful Clothes**

**3- Disobeying Allah ﷻ**

**4- Hastiness with one's *Du'a***

**5- Transgressing during one's *Du'a***

**6- Insincerity in Making one's *Du'a***

**7- Some of our Salaf Saleh's Statements with Regard to answering or Refusing one's *Du'a***



### Disobeying Allah ﷻ

Allah ﷻ will answer the *Du'a* of anyone who performs good deeds. This is confirmed in the Hadith of the people of the Cave. Ibn Umar ؓ reported that the Prophet ﷺ said: "While three persons were walking, rain began to fall and they had to enter a cave in a mountain. A big rock rolled over and blocked the mouth of the cave. They said to each other, 'Invoke Allah with the best deed you have performed (so Allah might remove the rock)'. One of them said, 'O Allah! My parents were old and I used to go out to graze (my animals). On my return I would milk (the animals) and take the milk in a vessel for my parents to drink. After they had drunk from it, I would give it to my children, family, and wife. One day I was delayed, and on my return I found my parents sleeping, and I did not want to wake them up. The children were crying at my feet (because of hunger). That state of affairs continued till it was dawn. O Allah! If You regard that I did it for Your Sake, then please remove this rock so that we may see the sky.' So, the rock was moved a bit.

The second said, 'O Allah! You know that I was in love with a cousin of mine, like the deepest love a man may have for a woman, and she told me that I would not get my desire fulfilled unless I paid her one-hundred Dinars (gold pieces). So, I struggled for it till I gathered the desired amount, and when I sat in between her legs, she told me to be afraid of Allah, and asked me not to deflower her except rightfully (by marriage). So, I got up and left her. "O Allah! If You regard that I did it for Your Sake, kindly remove this rock." So, two-thirds of the rock was removed.

Then the third man said, 'O Allah! No doubt You know that once I employed a worker for one *Faraq* (three *Sa's*) of millet, and when I wanted to pay him, he refused to take it, so I sowed it and from its yield I bought cows and a shepherd. After a time that man came and demanded his money. I told him: "Go to those cows and the shepherd and take them for they are for you." He asked me whether I was joking with him. I told him that I was not joking with him, and that all that did indeed belong to him. O Allah! If You regard that I did it sincerely for Your sake, then please



## Is Making Supplication for Marriage

### Permissible in *Sujud*?

It is permissible to supplicate Allah ﷻ in *Sujud* during obligatory prayers; Abdullah Ibn Abbas ؓ reported that the Prophet ﷺ said: “As far as *Ruku'* is concerned, extol in it the Great and Glorious Lord, and while prostrating yourselves be earnest in supplication, for it is fitting that your supplications should be answered.”<sup>120</sup> In another Hadith, the Prophet ﷺ said: “The nearest a servant comes to his Lord is when he is prostrating himself, so make more and more supplication (in this state).”<sup>121</sup>

Therefore, it is permissible for a woman to ask Allah ﷻ for a good pious husband or legitimate money during *Sujud* or in the last hours of the night or any other times when a *Du'a* is more likely to be answered. Likewise, a man is allowed to

<sup>120</sup> Sahih Muslim: 479, Abu Dawud: 876, an-Nasa'i: 1045, ad-Darami: 1325, Imam Ahmed: 1/219, Ibn Hibban: 1896, and Ibn Khuzaimah: 548, 602.

<sup>121</sup> Sahih Muslim: 482, Abu Dawud: 875, an-Nasa'i: 1137, Imam Ahmed: 2/421, and Ibn Hibban: 1928, on the authority of Abu Hurairah ؓ.

ask Allah ﷻ for a good wife or legitimate money. Marriage is a kind of worship and it has benefit for both the man and woman. Anas Ibn Malik ؓ reported that the Prophet ﷺ said: “Let one of you ask his Lord for all that he needs, even for the laces of his sandal when they are cut.” He added, in a version from Thabit al-Bunani in *Mursal* form, “Even asking Him for salt, and even asking Him for his laces when they are cut.”<sup>122</sup>

We should make it a point to make *Du'a* for all things, big or small. Nothing is too big for the One Whom we are asking from; nothing is too small for the one who is asking. That is why we have been taught to ask Allah even when we need something as small as shoelaces. Allah ﷻ says,

إِنَّمَا قَوْلُنَا لِشَيْءٍ إِذَا أَرَدْنَاهُ أَنْ نَقُولَ لَهُ كُنْ فَيَكُونُ ﴿١٠١﴾

«Verily, Our Word unto a thing when We intend it, is only that We say unto it: “Be!” – and it is)»<sup>123</sup>

<sup>122</sup> At-Tirmidhi: 2250, Ibn Hibban: 866, 894, 895, and Abu Ya'la': 3403.

<sup>123</sup> Surat an-Nahl: Verse 40.



A *Du'a* is defined as any invocation or prayer addressed to Allah ﷻ. In our times, we find many reasons why people do not make *Du'a*; we forget, do not know how, or just do not think it will be answered. Fundamental to this is the loss of dependence and trust in Allah ﷻ. As Muslims, there is something very wrong when we believe our *Du'a* will not be answered. We do not turn to Allah in our times of need and instead put our trust, dependence, and hopes on worldly things that we think will help us.

Although these temporal things are the means through which our *Du'a* can be answered, the root of our being should be trained automatically to turn to Allah and not anything or anyone else. Through our *Du'a*, we strengthen our *Imaan* and our relationship with Allah ﷻ, as well as heighten our awareness of cause and effect and this can help inspire and motivate us to follow Islam more closely in our lives.

### **The Power of *Du'a*:**

The *Du'a* can change our lives, outlook, and fate. It is the most potent weapon of a believer. It can change fate, while no action of ours ever could. It is the essence of worship.

With it we could never fail; without it we could never succeed. In the proper scheme of things, *Du'a* should be the first and the last resort of the believer, with all his/her plans and actions coming in between.

Unfortunately, our ideas and practice regarding *Du'a* have become distorted. Often it is reduced to the level of a ritual. Generally, it is considered when all our efforts have failed, as a last resort. It is belittled through actions and sometimes even with words. Is it any wonder then that today, the mere mention of having to make *Du'a* is meant to indicate the hopelessness of a situation?

A *Du'a* is a conversation with Allah ﷻ, our Creator, our Lord and Master, the All-Knowing, the All-Powerful. This act in itself is of extraordinary significance. It is the most uplifting, liberating, empowering, and transforming conversation a person could ever have. We should turn to Him because we know that He ﷻ alone can end our sufferings and solve our problems. We would then feel relieved after having described our difficulties to our Creator. We would feel empowered after having communicated with the All-Mighty. We would sense His



## Checklist For The Muslim To Draw Closer To Allah

In a Hadith Qudsi, 'Ata' relates that Abu Hurayra said that the Messenger of Allah, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, said:

**"Allah ﷻ said: 'I have declared war on anyone who shows enmity to a friend of Mine. My slave does not draw near to Me with anything I love more than what I have made obligatory (e.g. Fard, Wajib) on him. And my slave continues to draw near to Me with supererogatory (e.g. Mustahab, Nawafil) actions until I love him. When I love him, I become his hearing with which he hears, his seeing with which he sees, his hand with which he strikes, and his foot with which he walks. If he were to ask Me for something, I would give it to him. If he were to ask Me for refuge, I would give him refuge. I do not hesitate in anything I do as I hesitate to take the soul of the believer who dislikes death and I disliked to annoy him.'"**

[Sahih al-Bukhari : 6137]

Muslims today are in a state of despair, not knowing where life is leading them, being caught up in the life of this dunya, and are finding it more and more difficult to turn to Allah(swt).

Problems face the Muslims as they struggle to hold onto their deen.

Family ties are broken through un-Islamic behaviour or the effects of *Sihr* (black magic). People are going to soothsayers and clairvoyants who use the evil Jinn to harm others and tear families apart, to the extent that these black magicians openly advertise their services in newspapers.

The youth are being bombarded with a cultural and media onslaught that is pre-occupying them so much that they find it difficult to stop and contemplate about Allah(swt), Islam, and the Hereafter.

Men and Women are working continuously either to earn just enough to survive or earn as much as possible to feed their consumer appetite. Never stopping to think of the balanced approach laid down by Allah(swt).

The checklist is presented to help Muslims think about how much they need to do and make a start to draw even closer to Allah(swt).

If you practice little or no Islam, please do not be hindered by the list. Start with your daily prayers and improve yourself over time. Remember if you take one step towards Allah(swt), then Allah(swt) will take ten steps towards you... if you walk towards Him, He(swt) will run towards you.

Repent to Allah(swt) and start to make the necessary changes in your life today. There is always room for improvement for everyone.



## 1<sup>st</sup> Advice

# There is no God but Allah – the word of success..... the way of Life

Dr. Yasir Bourhamy

### Introduction

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَغِيثُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا  
وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ  
لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ  
وَرَسُولُهُ.

All the praise is for Allah ﷻ, we thank him, we seek his help, we seek refuge in Him from the evils of ourselves and the evils of our deeds. Whoever Allah guides, none can misguide and whoever he chooses to misguide none can guide. And I bear witness that there is none worthy to be worshipped except Allah and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and His messenger.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ

مُسْلِمُونَ ﴿١٠٢﴾

O you who believe! Fear Allah (by doing all that He has ordered and by abstaining from all that He has forbidden) as He should be feared. [Obey Him, be thankful to Him, and remember Him always], and die not except in a state of Islam (as Muslims) with complete submission to Allah. [3:102]

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ  
وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً ۚ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ  
الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ وَالْأَرْحَامَ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا ﴿١﴾

O mankind! Be dutiful to your Lord, Who created you from a single person (Adam), and from him (Adam) He created his wife [Hawwa (Eve)], and from them both He created many men and women and fear Allah through Whom you demand your mutual (rights), and (do not cut the relations of) the wombs (kinship). Surely, Allah is Ever an All-Watcher over you. [4:1]



**he bows or prostrates, some of them fall from him." (Reported by At-Tabarani)**

The Prophet ﷺ would rise up and straighten his back from *ruku'*. ...he would stand straight and remain still such that every bone returns to its place.

**He also ordered "the one who prayed badly" to straighten his back, when he said to him: "No person's prayer is complete until he does that..."**

**Imagine how your transgressions and serious sins fall from you every time you bow and prostrate...**

**O Lord! How Merciful You Are!!!**

So, why do you rush in your bowing and prostration? Prolong them so that your sins fall from you. Do not miss this enormous reward!!

Source: *33 Ways to Concentrate in your prayer*  
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**DEFEND THE HONOUR OF THE  
PROPHET MUHAMMAD ﷺ,  
HIS COMPANIONS ﷺ,  
AND HIS WIVES ﷺ**

**A**fter the insults against the Prophet ﷺ from the Danish Cartoonists and Pope Benedict XVI, and the satanic Shi'aa scholar Yasser al-Habib attacking A'isha ﷺ the Mother of the Believers, the Sahaba ﷺ, and lies on the Prophet ﷺ. We ask Muslims to be vigilant against those who attack Islam and its core tenets of Belief, that were clearly laid down and preserved for future generations by the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and His Companions ﷺ.

Such insults against the Prophet ﷺ, His Wives ﷺ, and the Sahaba ﷺ are unfortunately not new.

However it is categorically clear from the evidences what the position of the Muslims must be regarding these matters.

The Prophet ﷺ said: **"None of you truly believes until he loves Me, more than his brothers, sisters, father, mother, and even his own self".**

Allah ﷻ says: